



Healthcare Quality Reporting Program

HOSPITAL-ACQUIRED INFECTIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

8-9am, December 15, 2014

Healthcentric Advisors, 235 Promenade Street, Suite 500

1. Welcome & today's meeting objectives (8am)

- Meeting chairs: L. Mermel and S. Viner-Brown
- Program staff: E. Cooper, T. Mota
- Voting members in attendance (XX/19): N. Alexander, M. Fishman, Y. Jiang, J. Jefferson, M. Marsella, P. Mastors, S. Turner, J. Robinson
- Others in attendance: P. Winderman

- **Staffing changes**

As shared in a previous email, Rosa has accepted a position directing a new research center at Brown, focusing on nursing home innovation. The new research center will identify nursing home innovations across the country and then test and disseminate them nationally using AHCA's nursing home network.

The team is planning for as seamless a transition as possible. Sam and Emily will be the primary points of contact for the program, and will be joined by Terri Mota, of Healthcentric Advisors.

Terri has been with Healthcentric Advisors for 12 years, is a Registered Nurse, and serves as a nursing home (NH) subject matter expert for CMS's NH Quality Measure Development and Maintenance and Symptom Management contracts. She brings her expertise in long-term care, quality measurement, patient assessment tools, and stakeholder engagement to the project.

2. Review of the previous meeting's action items (8:05am)

- Send out hand hygiene environmental scan and electronic measurement research (Emily) – **Complete**
- Share hospitals' hand hygiene tools (Emily) – **Complete**
- Convey hand hygiene recommendations to the Steering Committee (Rosa/Emily) – **Complete**

3. Update: Task Force for Antimicrobial Stewardship and Environmental Infection Control (8:10am)

- **Task force's charge**

In response to our 51/51 ranking in *C. difficile* LabID events on Hospital Compare, Dr. Fine convened a taskforce for Antimicrobial Stewardship and Environmental Infection Control. This group is providing recommendations to HEALTH re: antimicrobial stewardship and environmental cleaning in hospitals and long-term care facilities. The task force has submitted recommendations and has administered surveys to both the Acute-care and long-term-care facilities in the state. These surveys were based on the CDC Core Elements Checklist and the Advancing Excellence Survey, respectively. The data from these surveys will be used to inform the work of the task force moving forward.



- **Data from nursing homes (final) and hospitals (preliminary)**

Nicole reviewed the data from the two surveys. The nursing home survey is complete and is now closed. The hospital survey will remain open until 12/19. The preliminary data and survey questions will be included with the minutes.

- **Discussion themes included:**

Nicole explained that one of the goals of the taskforce is to bring information to, and promote awareness among, high level hospital leadership. Senator Whitehouse has been working on concurrent efforts to promote awareness on a national level.

The group discussed whether the FTE allocations requested by the Nursing Home survey would be shared with the group. This information is being looked at by the taskforce and will be shared with this committee when available.

The group also discussed how this work could be made more inclusive. It was suggested that the various committees who are working in this area (i.e. the taskforce and the HAI subcommittee) be brought together. It was also suggested that the taskforce reach out the State Affiliate of the American Medical Directors Association.

The data from these surveys will be used to inform the work of the task force moving forward and to help create guidelines for the Acute-care and Long-term-care communities. Nicole explained, and Len confirmed, that these guidelines will be tailored by setting to account for the different capabilities and resources. As more information is available it will be shared with this committee.

4. Discussion: Department of Health Hand Hygiene Observation (8:30am)

- **Steering Committee plan**

Dr. Fine, Len and Sam discussed the HAI Subcommittee's response to the Steering Committee's direction about standardizing hand hygiene, with Rosa and Emily in attendance. After hearing the Subcommittee's suggestions and thoughts about changing existing policies and procedures – which are already evidence-based but vary by facility – Dr. Fine suggested that HEALTH summer interns act as 'secret shoppers' to measure hand hygiene. These interns would observe hand hygiene standardized methods across the hospitals.

In response to the Steering Committee's guidance the HAI Subcommittee recommended publicly reporting multiple data points together; performing a pilot prior to publishing data; and including a preview period before publication.

- **Charge to the HAI Subcommittee**

In response to the HAI Subcommittee's recommendations, the Steering Committee agreed that the HAI Subcommittee should be charged with developing the methods for observation.

- **Discussion themes included:**

The group reiterated their previous recommendations, including the need to account for variability in observation, the need to collect enough data to provide robust and reliable results and the need for a pilot to ensure that the data are valid.



The group discussed whether observation methods would be able to capture all of the important moments in hand hygiene, since some methods only observe providers entering and exiting the room. Some hospitals are now looking at hand hygiene moments that occur during the patient interaction and are also querying patients about their observation of their providers' hand hygiene practices.

The group felt that it is important to create a simple tool that can be used by non-Infection Prevention professionals. Ensuring that the tool also accounts for the differing hand hygiene policies across hospitals was also discussed.

Recommendations:

The subcommittee recommended that all of the hospitals' hand hygiene tools and policies be collected and assessed for commonalities. These will be used to create a simple tool that can be used across hospitals. They supported the Steering Committee's suggestion to use HEALTH interns to perform the observation. Once a tool is created the subcommittee will determine the protocol for performing the observation and how to best train the observers.

5. Program updates (8:50am)

- **CLABSI reminders**

Emily queried the subcommittee as to whether they still find the CLABSI data submission reminders helpful. The group requested that we continue to send the reminders.

6. Open forum & next steps (8:55am)

- 2015 Meeting dates (unless noted, meetings are the 3rd Monday at Healthcentric Advisors)
 - February 23 (4th Monday)
 - April 20
 - June 15
 - August 17
 - October 19
 - December 21

7. Action Items

- Send hand hygiene measurement tools to subcommittee (Emily)
- Request hand hygiene tool/policies from all hospitals (Maureen Marsella)
- Review tools and policies for commonalities (Emily/Terri)
- Design hand hygiene tool to be used for observation study across hospitals (HAI Subcommittee)
- Explore HEALTH intern program (Emily/Sam)
- Share additional information from the Task Force for Antimicrobial Stewardship and Environmental Infection Control, as available (Emily)

Next Meeting: February 23, 2015